

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

configuring a computer network with a central system server in communication with at least two machines;

said central system server dynamically installing a daemon application on each machine with available storage ~~by a central system coupled to systems with available disk space to store backup files,~~ said machines ~~systems~~ including each server and client in the ~~on a~~ network;

receiving a first metadata by the central system server from said installed daemon ~~applications~~ application, wherein said first metadata comprises information regarding an amount of available disk space to store backup files;

creating a master file by the central system server, wherein said master file comprises the received first metadata ~~information regarding a list of systems available to store backup files and an amount of available disk space to store backup files for each system available to store backup files;~~

the central system server installing a backup application on ~~systems~~ one of said machines to perform a backup operation;

the central system server receiving a request from the backup application installed on the first machine ~~application~~ to download said master file;

said backup application selecting from the downloaded master file at least one ~~system~~ second machine available to store backup files; and

performing the backup operation to backup at least one file ~~on~~ to the at least one selected second machine ~~system~~.

2. Cancel

3. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 2 1 further comprising the steps of:
compressing and encrypting backup data; and

storing a second metadata and a key.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 3, wherein said second metadata comprises one or more of the following information:
- number of bytes of data backed up in a particular machine system, ~~systems~~ machines storing said backup data, type of files in said backup data, ownership of files in said backup data, and ~~who has~~ privileges to execute said backup data.
5. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 4 further comprising the step of: transmitting said second metadata and said key to a said central system server.
6. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 4 further comprising the steps of:
- the backup application receiving a list of files to be restored;
- determining which ~~systems~~ machines store said files to be restored using said second metadata; and
- the backup application connecting to one or more daemon applications on one or more ~~systems~~ machines storing said files to be restored.
7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6 further comprising the steps of:
- receiving said files to be restored from said one or more daemon applications;
- uncompressing and decrypting said files to be restored using said key; and
- restoring said files to be restored.
8. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodied in a machine readable medium comprising the programming steps of:
- dynamically installing a daemon application on at least one of a plurality of machines with available disk space in by a central system coupled to said machine ~~systems with available disk space to store backup files~~, said ~~systems~~ machines including each server and client on a network;
- receiving a first metadata by the central system server from said installed daemon applications ~~application~~, wherein said first metadata comprises information regarding an amount of available disk space to store backup files;

creating a master file by the central system server, wherein said master file comprises the received first metadata information ~~regarding a list of systems available to store backup files and an amount of available disk space to store backup files for each system available to store backup files~~;

the central system server installing a backup application on systems on a select quantity of the machines to perform a backup operation;

receiving by the central system server a request from said installed backup application on a first machine to download said master file;

the backup application on said first machine selecting from the downloaded master file at least one ~~system~~ second machine available to store backup files; and

performing the backup operation to backup at least one file ~~on~~ to the at least one selected second machine system.

9. Cancel

10. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim ~~8~~ 9 further comprising the programming steps of:

compressing and encrypting backup data; and

storing a second metadata and a key.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 10, wherein said second metadata comprises one or more of the following information:

number of bytes of data backed up in a particular machine system, ~~systems~~ machines storing said backup data, type of files in said backup data, ownership of files in said backup data, and who has privileges to execute said backup data.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 11 further comprising the programming step of:

transmitting said second metadata and said key to a said central system server.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer program product as recited in claim 11 further comprising the programming steps of:

the backup application receiving a list of files to be restored;
determining which ~~systems~~ machines store said files to be restored using said second metadata; and

the backup application connecting to one or more daemon applications on one or more ~~systems~~ machines storing said files to be restored.

14. (Original) The computer program product as recited in claim 13 further comprising the programming steps of:

receiving said files to be restored from said one or more daemon applications;
uncompressing said decrypting said files to be restored using said key; and
restoring said files to be restored.

15. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

multiple machines connected through a network, each machine in the system having a processor; and

for each machine, a memory unit storage coupled to said processor wherein said memory unit is operable for storing a computer program for backing up and restoring files; said machine selected from the group consisting of: a server and a client;

wherein said storage includes a computer program, wherein said computer program comprises instructions embedded in said storage and executable by said processor, said instructions comprising:

instructions for dynamically installing a daemon application on a machine with available disk space by a central system server coupled to said machine ~~systems with available disk space to store backup files, said systems including each server and client on a network;~~

instructions for receiving a first metadata by the central system server from said installed daemon application, wherein said first metadata comprises information regarding an amount of available disk space to store a backup file;

instructions for creating a master file by the central system server, wherein said master file comprises the received first metadata information ~~regarding a list of systems available to store backup files and an amount of available disk space to store backup files for each system available to store backup files;~~

instructions for installing a backup application on ~~systems~~ on a first of said machines to perform a backup operation;

instructions for receiving by the central system server a request from said installed backup application to download said master file;

instructions for the installed backup application selecting from the downloaded master file at least one ~~system~~ second machine available to store backup files; and

instructions for performing the backup operation to backup at least one file ~~on to~~ the at least one selected second machine system.

16. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a central system server;

a first computer system coupled to said central system, said first computer system comprising:

a first processor and a first memory unit coupled to said first processor, wherein said first memory unit is operable for storing a backup application operable for backing up and restoring files;

a second and a third computer system, both coupled to said central system wherein each of said second and third computer system comprises:

a second processor;

a second memory unit coupled to said second processor, wherein said second memory unit is operable for storing a daemon application operable for communicating with a said central system server; and

a disk unit, wherein an available capacity of said disk unit is configured to store back-up files; and

said central system server coupled to said first, ~~said~~ second and ~~said~~ third computer systems wherein said central system comprises:

a third processor; and

a computer program for installing said daemon application on said second and third computer systems and installing said backup application on said first computer system for backup and restoration of files;

wherein said computer program comprises instructions executable by a central system server processor and embedded in storage accessible to said central system processor, wherein the instructions comprise:

instructions ~~for to~~ dynamically install ~~installing~~ said daemon application on said second and said third computer systems;

instructions ~~for receiving~~ to receive a first metadata from said installed daemon applications, wherein said first metadata comprises information regarding available disk space on said second and said third computer systems;

instructions ~~for creating~~ to create a master file, wherein said master file comprises information regarding a list of system available to store backup files and an amount of available disk space to store backup files for each system to store backup files;

instructions ~~for installing~~ to install said backup application on said first computer system to perform a backup operation;

instructions ~~for transferring~~ to transfer a copy of said master file to said first computer system responsive to receiving a request from said backup application to download said master file

instructions ~~for selecting~~ to select from the master file at least one of said second and third computer systems available to store backup files; and

instructions ~~for performing~~ to perform the backup operation to backup at least one file on the at least one selected system.

17. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim ~~15~~ 16, wherein said backup application comprises instructions, executable by said ~~first~~ processor and stored in storage accessible to said ~~first~~ processor, said instructions comprising instructions for receiving a list of files to be backed up.

18. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said backup application further comprises:

instructions for compressing and encrypting backup data; and

instructions for storing a second metadata and a key.

19. (Original) The system as recited in claim 18, wherein said second metadata comprises one or more of the following information:

number of bytes of data backed up in a particular system, systems storing said backup data, type of files in said backup data, ownership of files in said backup data, and who has privileges to execute said backup data.

20. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said backup application further comprises:

instructions for transmitting said second metadata and said key to said central system server.

21. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said backup application further comprises:

instructions ~~for receiving~~ to receive a list of files to be restored by a backup application;

instructions ~~for determining~~ to determine which ~~systems~~ machine to store said files to be restored using said second metadata; and

instructions ~~for connecting~~ to connect the backup application to at least one of said daemon applications stored on said ~~second and said third computer systems~~ machines storing said files to be restored.

22. (Previously Presented) The system as recited in claim 21, wherein said backup application further comprises:

instructions for receiving said files to be restored from at least one of said daemon applications;

instructions for uncompressing and decrypting said files to be restored using said key; and

instructions for restoring said files to be restored.